Amendments to the claims

Please add the following claims:

17. (new) A method for administering local or regional anesthesia comprising the steps of,

providing an anesthetic comprising a premixed combination of lidocaine; bupivacaine; and one or more buffers selected from a group consisting of sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid; and

injecting said anesthetic in an amount sufficient to achieve nerve blockage.

18. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises lidocaine hydrochloride and bupivacaine hydrochloride.

19. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein said combination comprises 1% lidocaine hydrochloride and 0.25% bupivacaine hydrochloride.

20. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises a mixture of lidocaine and bupivacaine in a ratio of less than 1:1.

21. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises epinephrine bitartrate 1:200,000.

22. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said anesthetic is capable of providing analgesic effect for at least six hours.

23. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said anesthetic is an injectable therapy for one or more applications selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural,

intramuscular, intradural, intraspinous, and a peripheral nerve block.

24. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises one or more vasoconstrictors.

25. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination has a pH of about 7.4.

25. (new) An anesthetic comprising, a premixed combination of lidocaine; bupivacaine; and one or more buffers selected from a group consisting of sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid.

26. (new) The anesthetic of claim 25, wherein said combination comprises lidocaine hydrochloride and bupivacaine hydrochloride.

27. (new) The anesthetic of claim 26, wherein said combination comprises 1% lidocaine hydrochloride and 0.25% bupivacaine hydrochloride.

28. (new) The anesthetic of claim 27, wherein said combination comprises a mixture of lidocaine and bupivacaine in a ratio of less than 10:1.

29. (new) The anesthetic of claim 25, wherein said combination comprises a mixture of lidocaine and bupivacaine in a ratio of less than 1:1.

30. (new) The anesthetic of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises epinephrine bitartrate 1:200,000.

31. (new) The anesthetic of claim 17, wherein said anesthetic is capable of providing analgesic effect for at least six hours.

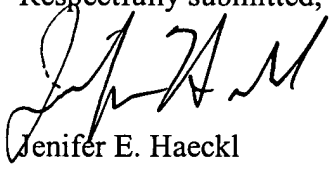
32. (new) The anesthetic of claim 17, wherein said anesthetic is an injectable therapy for one or more applications selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinous, and a peripheral nerve block.

33. (new) The anesthetic of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises one or more vasoconstrictors.

Support in the specification for the added claims is found at column 2, lines 33-65.

If for any reason the Reissue Application or Amendments are found to be incomplete, or if at any time it appears that a telephone conference with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned in Westborough, Massachusetts at (508) 898-1501.

Respectfully submitted,



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Claims As Amended

1. (original) A pharmacological agent for use as preemptive analgesia, comprising, a solution comprising 1% lidocaine HCL and .25% bupivacaine HCL in a ratio less than or equal to 10:1.

2. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said ratio is less than or equal to 5:1.

3. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said ratio is less than or equal to 2:1.

4. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said ratio is less than or equal to 1:1.

5. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution further comprises one or more buffers selected from a group consisting of sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid.

6. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution is an injectable therapy for one or more applications selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinous and peripheral nerve blockade.

7. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution further comprises epinephrine bitartrate 1:200,000.

8. (original) The agent of claim 1, wherein said solution is capable of providing analgesic effect for at least six hours.

9. (original) A method of reducing perioperative pain, comprising the steps of,

providing a sterile, isotonic pharmacologic agent comprising licocaine and bupivicaine in a ratio less than or equal to 10:1; and

introducing said agent as an adjunct for preemptive analgesia before a surgical procedure is initiated.

10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein said agent is introduced as one or more injectable therapies selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinous or peripheral nerve blockade.

11. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein said agent comprises 1% lidocaine HCL and .25% bupivacaine HCL in a ratio sufficient to provide at least six hours of analgesic effect.

12. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said agent further comprises one or more vasoconstrictors.

13. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said agent further comprises one or more buffering compounds.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein one or more of said buffering compounds comprises sodium hydroxide.

15. (original) A method of reducing perioperative pain, comprising the steps of,

providing a sterile, isotonic pharmacologic agent comprising 1% lidocaine, .25% bupivicaine and one or more pH buffers; and

infiltrating said agent as an adjunct for preemptive analgesia before a surgical procedure is initiated, whereby said agent provides at least six hours of analgesic effect after infiltration.

16. (original) An injectable preemptive analgesic agent, comprising, 1% lidocaine HCL and .25% bupivicaine in an effective ratio capable of providing at least six hours of analgesic therapy, one or more pH buffers, and one or more vasoconstrictors.

17. (new) A method for administering local or regional anesthesia comprising the steps of,

providing an anesthetic comprising a premixed combination of lidocaine; bupivacaine; and one or more buffers selected from a group consisting of sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid; and

injecting said anesthetic in an amount sufficient to achieve nerve blockage.

18. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises lidocaine hydrochloride and bupivacaine hydrochloride.

19. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein said combination comprises 1% lidocaine hydrochloride and 0.25% bupivacaine hydrochloride.

20. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises a mixture of lidocaine and bupivacaine in a ratio of less than 1:1.

21. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises epinephrine bitartrate 1:200,000.

22. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said anesthetic is capable of providing analgesic effect for at least six hours.

23. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said anesthetic is an injectable therapy for one or more applications selected from a group consisting of subcutaneous, caudal, epidural, intramuscular, intradural, intraspinous, and a peripheral nerve block.

24. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination comprises one or more

vasoconstrictors.

25. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said combination has a pH of about 7.4.

25. (new) An anesthetic comprising, a premixed combination of lidocaine; bupivacaine; and one or more buffers selected from a group consisting of sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid.

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